

CLAIM SUMMARY DOCUMENT

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1. Canceled.

2. (Withdrawn) Hybrid-DNA-molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence from *S. aureus* coding for a protein or polypeptide having fibrinogen binding activity.

3. (Withdrawn) Plasmid or phage comprising a nucleotide sequence from *S. aureus* coding for a protein or polypeptide having fibrinogen binding activity.

4. (Withdrawn) An *E. coli* strain expressing said fibrinogen binding protein.

5. (Withdrawn) A microorganism transformed by recombinant DNA molecule of claim 2.

6. (Withdrawn) Hybrid-DNA-molecule according to claim 2, comprising the following nucleotide sequence:

GAGCGAAGGA TACGGTCCAA GAGAAAAGAA ACCAGTGAGT ATTAATCACA
ATATCGTAGA GTACAATGAT GGTACTTTTA AATATCAATC TAGACCAAAA
TTTAACTCAA CACCTAAATA TATTAAATTC AAACATGACT ATAATATTTT
AGAATTTAAC GATGGTACAT TCGAATATGG TGCACGTCCA CAATTTAATA
AACCAGCAGC GAAAAC TGAT GCAACTATTA AAAAGAACA AAAATTGATT
CAAGCTCAAA ATCTTGTGAG AGAATTTGAA AAAACACATA CTGTCAGTGC
ACACAGAAAA GCACAAAAGG CAGTCAACTT AGTTTCGTTT GAATACAAAG
TGAACAAAAT GGTCTTACAA GAGCGAATTG ATAATGTATT AAAACAAGGA

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TTAGTGAGA

7 (Withdrawn) A method for producing a fibrinogen binding protein or polypeptide wherein a) at least one hybrid-DNA molecule according to claim 2, is introduced into a microorganism, b) said microorganism is cultivated in a growth promoting medium, and c) the protein thus formed is isolated.

8. Canceled.

9. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical~~ A pharmaceutical composition for the inhibition of Staphylococci binding to fibrinogen comprising a fibrinogen binding protein of claim 12 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. (Withdrawn) ~~Method~~ for inhibition of Staphylococci binding to fibrinogen in mammals including humans, by administering a therapeutically and/or prophylactically effective amount of a fibrinogen binding protein of claim 12 to a mammal in need of such treatment.

11. (Withdrawn) Method for passive immunization against Staphylococcal infection, comprising administering to a mammal antibodies against a ^{Trk}fibrinogen binding protein of claim 12 in an amount sufficient to provide passive immunization.

12. (Previously added) A fibrinogen binding protein derived from *S. aureus* having an apparent molecular weight of 60 kDa and that produces fragments having apparent

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molecular weights of approximately 50, 45, 40 and 30 kDa when digested with V8 protease (40 µg/ml) for one hour on ice.

2 13. (Previously added) The fibrinogen binding protein of claim 12 wherein the protein further binds prothrombin.
